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is in the hands of the Agricultural Department, the ryots are deprived of the use of the groundnut cakes as food for cattle and milch cows? ''

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA :—'' That is not a fact, Sir.''

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—'' May I know whether representations have been received by the Government that village committees should be entrusted with the actual distribution of groundnut cakes? ''

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA :—'' The Government have not so far received any such representation.''

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—'' Are there other cakes like margosa cakes, pungan and illuppai cakes which are at least as good as the groundnut cakes and if so whether the Government will procure them and give to the ryots? ''

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA :—'' We will consider the suggestion if there is need to procure and distribute them.''

Madras City House Accommodation Order.

* 38 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government, some time ago, promulgated the Madras City House Accommodation Order and if it is still in force;

(*b*) if it is not in force, why the order was withdrawn;

(*c*) whether the Government have received representations impressing on them the necessity to revive the order;

(*d*) if the answer to (*c*) is in the affirmative, whether the Government propose to re-enact it; and

(*e*) whether the Government propose to enact legislation to be effective at least for a temporary period in the terms of that order?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—'' (*a*) The Madras City Control of Accommodation Order was passed in January 1945. It is not now in force.

'' (*b*) The order was withdrawn in November 1945 for administrative reasons.

'' (*c*) Yes.

'' (*d*) The subject is receiving the due attention of the Government.

'' (*e*) This point will be considered.''

Scarcity of housing accommodation in the city.

* 39 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that in urban areas, especially in cities, scarcity of accommodation is keenly felt;

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(*b*) whether the Madras House Rent Control Order was promulgated to prevent undue increase in rent and ensure security of tenure;

(*c*) whether statistics are available of cases tried under the various clauses of the order and what they are;

(*d*) whether the order ceases to have effect after 30th September 1946; and

(*e*) whether the Government propose to enact legislation to afford protection to tenants?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) Statistics are not readily available.

" (*d*) Yes.

" (*e*) The question of enacting legislation for the continuance of the rent control measures beyond the 30th September 1946 is receiving the attention of the Government."

II.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. THE PRESIDENT.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House that the following message, dated 6th September 1946, has been received by me from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly :—

' In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Bill, 1946 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1946) as passed by the Assembly on the 6th September 1946 and signed by me, for the concurrence of the Council.' "

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

GOVERNMENT BILLS.

III.—THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES AND LOCAL BOARDS (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 1946.

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" Sir, I move—

' *that the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Bill, 1946, as passed by the Legislative Assembly be taken into consideration at once.*'

" In moving this motion I should like to invite the attention of the House to a few facts. The last elections to municipalities and district boards were held somewhere about the year 1937. In the year 1939, shortly after the outbreak of war, the Congress Ministry which was in office resigned and the Government of the Province was taken over by the Governor under the powers vested in him under section 93 of the Government of India Act. But these municipalities and local boards continued to function up to June 1942. In the year 1942, in connection with what is known as the August Movement for national freedom, many of the local bodies passed resolutions expressing their sympathy with the movement for national freedom and desiring the release of the national leaders who had been put in prison. The Government of the day did not approve of those resolutions passed by the local bodies. Under the Local Boards Acts of 1920 and 1930 there are powers vested